

SEVENTH ANNUAL  
REPORT  
WITH  
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS  
OF THE  
BROOKLYN UNION FOR CHRISTIAN WORK.

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ORGANIZED, Nov., 1866.

INCORPORATED, JUNE, 1871.

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531 FULTON STREET,  
BROOKLYN, N. Y.

Nov. 1873

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SEVENTH ANNUAL


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## Board of Managers.

|                  |       |                               |
|------------------|-------|-------------------------------|
| SYLVESTER SWAIN, | . . . | <i>President.</i>             |
| REV. S. H. CAMP, | . . . | <i>First Vice-President.</i>  |
| JOSIAH T. TUBBY, | . . . | <i>Second Vice-President.</i> |
| MISS FANNY HULL, | . . . | <i>Secretary.</i>             |
| ISAAC H. CARY,   | . . . | <i>Treasurer.</i>             |



## Additional Directors.

|                  |       |         |
|------------------|-------|---------|
| REV. H. R. NYE,  | . . . | } 1876. |
| EDWARD CROMWELL, | . . . |         |
| MRS. F. HUSSEY,  | . . . |         |

|                     |       |         |
|---------------------|-------|---------|
| REV. A. J. PUTNAM,  | . . . | } 1875. |
| MRS. ANNA C. FIELD, | . . . |         |
| WILLIAM C. GARDNER, | . . . |         |

|                     |       |         |
|---------------------|-------|---------|
| ROBERT F. SMITH,    | . . . | } 1874. |
| MISS MARY HAVILAND, | . . . |         |
| E. A. DOTY,         | . . . |         |



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# CONSTITUTION

OF THE

## UNION FOR CHRISTIAN WORK.

ADOPTED FEBRUARY 14, 1870.

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### PREAMBLE.

We, the undersigned, desirous of promoting our own higher spiritual good, of cultivating a more fraternal spirit amongst disciples of Jesus of every name and sect, and of engaging in extending more widely the influence of a pure Christian faith, do hereby form ourselves into an Association, and agree to adopt for our united government the following Constitution :—

### ARTICLE I.

This Association shall be known as the UNION FOR CHRISTIAN WORK.

### ARTICLE II.

Any person may become a member of this Union by subscribing to the Constitution and paying One Dollar annually, which shall become due on the third Tuesday of November of each year. On the payment of twenty-five dollars at any one time, any person may become a life member.

### ARTICLE III.

Twenty-five members shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of this Union.

## ARTICLE IV.

Not less than five days' notice of all business meetings shall be given by the Secretary, in two Brooklyn daily papers.

## ARTICLE V.

There shall be an annual meeting of the Union on the third Tuesday of November, at which shall be elected by ballot,

A President,  
Two Vice-Presidents,  
A Secretary, and  
A Treasurer,

who shall hold their respective offices for one year, or until others are elected to fill their places. Also, nine Directors, who shall so classify themselves that one-third of their number shall retire from office at the end of each year, and thereafter their places shall be filled at each annual election.

## ARTICLE VI.

The Officers and Directors named in Article V shall constitute a Board of Managers, who, in addition to the ordinary duties of their respective positions, shall provide and furnish suitable rooms, books, periodicals, games, etc., for the general purposes of the Union ; shall have the control and management of its affairs and property ; shall have the power of filling vacancies in the Board ; of making their own By-Laws, and of appointing such committees, subject to their direction, as they may deem expedient.

## ARTICLE VII.

At every annual meeting of the Union, the Board of Managers shall give a full report of their general operations and proceedings, and, as far as they can, the results thereof for the preceding year ; also, a statement of the financial condition of the Union, including receipts and expenditures, and an estimate of outstanding liabilities ; also, an estimate of the probable financial and other requirements of the coming year.



## ARTICLE VIII.

Special meetings of the Union may be called by the Board of Managers at their own option, or by the President, at the written request of thirteen members. The object of such meeting shall be stated in the notice.

## ARTICLE IX.

Additions or amendments to these Articles, of which previous notice in writing shall have been given, may be made by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at any regular or special meeting.

## BY-LAWS.

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1. The officers annually elected by the Union shall be the officers of the Board.

2. In addition to the usual duties of their respective offices, it shall be the duty of the President to make the annual report of the general operations and results thereof of the Board to the Union, and also such suggestions and recommendations for the then coming year as may seem to him to be best adapted to the success of the objects of the Union. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to give the annual financial statements and estimates of the Board to the Union, as required by the Constitution.

3. Regular meetings of the Board shall be held on the second Tuesday evening of each Month, seven members constituting a quorum. Special meetings shall be called by the President, or either Vice-President, at the written request of three members. The place of any member who shall fail to attend three regular meetings successively may be declared vacant.

4. Vacancies in the Board of Managers, or in any of the offices herein named, may be filled at any regular meeting fixed by the Board succeeding that at which such vacancy shall have been announced. And the Secretary shall give written notice to each member of the Board of the time at which such vacancy shall be filled.

5 At all meetings the order of business shall be—

First. Reading of the Minutes.

Second. Communications to the Board.

Third. Treasurer's Report.

Fourth. Reports of Standing Committees.

Fifth. Reports of Special Committees.

Sixth. Special Business.

Seventh. Unfinished Business.

6. The Treasurer shall make a monthly report of receipts and expenditures.

7. The Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Board.

8. At the regular meeting in December of each year there shall be appointed the following standing committees :—

A Finance Committee, of which the Treasurer shall be a member.

An Executive Committee.

A Library and Amusement Committee.

A Committee on Benevolence.

A Committee on Lectures and Addresses to be delivered before the Union or under its auspices.

A Committee of Employment, whose general duty shall be to procure suitable situations for any boys or other persons attending the rooms who shall be in need of employment.

Each of which committees shall consist of five.

9. The Financial Committee shall have the management and supervision of the pecuniary affairs of the Union, and shall generally devise ways and means for sustaining its operations. They shall have power at all times to examine the books, accounts, and vouchers of the Treasurer, and if found correct shall approve and certify his annual statement.

10. The Executive Committee shall have charge of providing proper rooms for the use of the Union, the general supervision thereof and the property therein, and shall keep the same insured. They shall appoint proper persons as Janitor and Librarian, and shall fix their salaries, subject to the approval of the Board.

11. The Library Committee shall endeavor, by voluntary contribution or otherwise, to increase the books and other reading matter for the Reading-room, shall have supervision thereof and fix rules for the proper regulation of the Reading and Amusement Rooms, and introduce and supervise, from time to time, such additional recreations and exercises as they may think proper.

12. The Committee on Benevolence shall endeavor “to enlist in active and charitable work all those who are willing and ready to do good,” and generally to suggest and carry out such benevolent operations as the purposes of the Union seem to require.

13. The various committees shall report from time to time the requirements of their several departments, but no liabilities shall be incurred, unless previously authorized by the Board. The President shall be *ex-officio* a member of all standing committees.

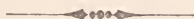
14. The Treasurer shall be required to give the President ample and satisfactory security for the funds in his hands, unless he make a special deposit of them as Treasurer of the Union for Christian Work.

15. These By-Laws may be altered or amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at any regular meeting of the Board succeeding that at which notice of such amendment or alteration shall have been given in writing.

# ANNUAL REPORT

BY

REV. S. H. CAMP.



LADIES AND GENTLEMEN :—The significance of this meeting is in the fact that the custodians of the interests here represented, are expected once a year to make a report of their work, to invite criticism or suggestion, to secure and increase that interest which makes it possible to carry forward the work. This is the time and place for them to meet the patrons of the institution, to state in brief the story of the year's work, to consider the claims of the Union in general.

Any one who cares to inform himself concerning the history of our organization, will find it in brief in the reports which have been made from year to year. From a very humble and small beginning the work has grown to be of large and growing importance. Those who were identified with its origin, and are now familiar with its methods, its prospects, its opportunities, must feel that their efforts have been crowned with a gratifying success.

In looking at the field just as it lies before us at present, we can truly say it was never more inviting than now, and those who mostly and carefully survey the field, claim that the opportunity grows every year.

We are just beginning to find out what we can best do ; we are less and less likely to squander our force by misdirection ; we are finding out where we belong, and it must be very gratifying to all who have the interests of the Union at heart, to know that we are favored with such a wise, faithful and enthusiastic corps of teachers. The real success of this enterprise has been in the hands of a few persons ; to their wise and constant service, we chiefly owe whatever success has been reached.

It will be altogether impossible for us to present any statement of figures or facts which shall adequately announce the results of the year's work.

What we are trying to do is of too large a character to be thus defined ; the work contemplates interests which cannot be stated in that way ; the scope of its business is too wide to be thus represented.

We can tell you how many dollars have been received and spent ; we shall take pride in showing how these dollars have been used, how much they have accomplished, but we can't begin to announce the deeper and more significant results. All great work refuses to be measured by our tiny methods ; it is no longer great when it may be measured.

It is a matter of interest to know that this enterprise has helped to create others of the same general character. It has given direction to other efforts, it has quickened other well disposed persons to enlist in similar business. Since the date of our organization quite a number of similar institutions have been started, and some of them are doing a large and generous work.

Those who are interested in those enterprises are glad to avail themselves of the results of our experience. We have visitors at these rooms who come to get suggestions from us, that they may more successfully prosecute the work they have in charge, and if we have accomplished nothing else, we have ourselves recognized the importance of the claim such work has upon us, and we have done something to increase in the community an interest in such work.

Such endeavors have great significance when we remember that in all true work there is reciprocity. They who work are often more benefited than those for whom the work is done. Every endeavor on the part of society, as represented by the church, or any other organized method, to build up the waste places ; to replenish the needy life in which we all share, just so much help all who make the effort. The vast importance of holding ourselves in quick communication with the forces which make for righteousness, becomes more clear as we serve in enterprises of this sort, and so long as their intention is large and fine, they have a legitimate claim upon human sympathy and interest.



Looking toward the future, we are ambitious to make the Union still more positive in its effort. We feel that what may be regarded as the negative feature of our work, is of considerable importance. If we only hold people back, if we but occupy boys with games and amusements, and thus keep them out of mischief even for the brief hour in the evening, very much is gained ; but this isn't enough. Our present constituency is made up of a very interesting class of persons ; we want a larger control over them ; we long to quicken them with fine purposes ; to stir them with ambition which shall surely command purity of aim and nobility of action.

Our Reading Rooms grow each year in interest and usefulness. We spend too much money and take too many pains to have that a mere lounging place. We see some of the more unlovely traits of human nature illustrated here ; there are persons who make constant use of the Reading Rooms who never contribute so much as a penny to help supply reading matter. We can hardly reach such persons directly, perhaps, but it seems to me we need not any longer provide anything in the way of amusement in the Reading Rooms. Our process should be the "levelling up" one, and the interests of this part of the work should be carefully studied.

There are still some books on the shelves of the Library which are not read nor likely to be, and there are many good books which ought to be there and are not, which would be read with eagerness. It is for those whose generosity supplies the sinews of work to us to determine how much more shall be done in this direction.

The writing, drawing and reading classes are in the care of faithful teachers, who bring to their work a cordial interest in the boys, and a thorough belief in the necessity of the work in hand. The actual results accomplished in this direction are of the most encouraging nature. The sewing school which is under the care of ladies in the Board has accomplished a good work. Nearly five hundred yards of material were made up by the girls last year. These girls are taught to sew, the material is furnished, and the garments when made are their own. We have about eighty girls who come to the sewing school every Saturday afternoon. The most pressing need in this department is in the direction of teachers. To my mind this is a very important part of our work. We do not

take the best care of the boys if we ignore the equal claim of their sisters. Here, as elsewhere, the only true charity is that which helps one to know how to help himself. What the girls get in learning how to make these garments is of much more account than the gift of the garment. The demand for workers in this direction will be larger than ever this winter.

What we have done heretofore in the way of outside benevolence has not been very extensive. This has not seemed to us to be so much our special mission, although we have not disregarded that claim. But the season before us is likely to make much larger demands in this direction. Not to recognize this new special claim upon us would be to dishonor the name we bear. Christian work this Winter will mean feeding and sheltering the poor, as it seldom has before. Nothing is more difficult than this sort of charity. Indiscriminate, thoughtless almsgiving is always likely to be mischievous, and we have no care to engage in that ; but we are very anxious to feel justified in taking measures for the relief of those whose cases we can examine, whose claims are honest. Should the demand become urgent, we can, without interfering with the functions of the institution, make this a depot for clothing, new or secondhand ; we could arrange to dispense loaves and coals, and any other needful thing if we have the means. The persons who do the real, the hard work of this institution are eager to engage in any enterprise which promises to abate suffering and elevate humanity. We, therefore, appeal to those who have so generously supported us so far, to remember this new and solemn claim. We desire to be the almoners of your bounty, to unite with our other most useful and promising work, the business of a discriminating charity in the season before us, which even now seems so full of painful forebodings for the poor.

During the war many churches were turned into hospitals, probably serving humanity quite as well as they ever had done before. And if this Winter shall prove to be what many fear, we may have to turn our Reading Room into a Soup House. Let us not be hindered in such work from lack of means.

The services of the gentlemen who have from time to time filled the office of President have done very much to give wise direction to our efforts, and substantial success as well. While we gratefully



recall their services, we must not forget that faithful corps of teachers whose constancy, fidelity and enthusiasm have been of unspeakable service.

During the year Dr. Bellows gave his lecture on "Music" for the benefit of the Union. The proceeds of that lecture were not so generous as his effort deserved, but the gentleman showed, as he has repeatedly done before, his hearty interest in our work, and his readiness to help it forward.

Some of the persons who are concerned in the management of the Union, do not feel satisfied with the amount of work undertaken. I believe the people who stand at our back in this business would, in a practical way, say to us go ahead, if we told them that we wished to have a lodging house where boys, and girls too, could find shelter and protection for the actual cost or cheaper still. We are just the ones to espouse and carry forward the Holly Tree Coffee House project. When it becomes apparent that we mean business, that we have the will and wisdom to engineer large plans for helpfulness, I don't believe we shall want for funds. If we are content with a two-penny project nobody will give us a pound. For myself, I must say it seems almost too small a matter to have a lad here for an hour in the evening, to be entertained, or even taught, when there is so much more to be done.

Many of the boys who come here have homes or something that answers to that purpose, but some of them have not, and many who rarely come to these inviting rooms would be very glad to get a lodging in a clean, respectable place for what that really costs. If we promise to do such work as that, to take hold of these serious problems in that practical way, we are rightly entitled to the recognition and support of the people who appoint us to the duties we undertake here.

I long to have this institution do something more in the service of temperance, and the most practical way to do that, is to make this more attractive than the places where evil spirits do resort and worse spirits are retailed. It is gratifying to remember that our faithful Librarian has probably compelled the proprietors of the drinking saloons to embellish their windows, as he has done ours, with plants and flowers. We want more money, because we want to do more work ; we are able to do more work with such a

band of workers as we have, whose ranks are filling up rather than thinning out, with so much enthusiasm and fidelity ; we know as well as any that we ought to accomplish more.

Will you make it possible for us to engage in a work of charity this Winter, which shall be somewhat in proportion to the demand made upon us ? May we promise to distribute loaves and coals and garments ? Will you not justify us in hoping that our enterprise may assume larger proportions ; We are ready, we are eager to do our part of the work. Can you doubt that the work is a wise, a useful one ? Are not our own true interests identical with those whom we strive to aid ? Can we afford to scorn or neglect so large, so wise a claim ? It means something to be invited to share in this great work of helpfulness, and we shall but postpone our own victory so long as we refuse to regard this lofty demand. The kingdom of Heaven will come when we all engage to do heavenly, helpful work. We may do something to abate the ills of human life. We may do much to augment its good forces. We believe that this Union for Christian Work has the right intention, that it is worthy of cordial support, that it indicates methods which have to do with the real welfare of humanity, therefore we again commend it to your notice, and again ask for the support which enables us to carry forward its large and significant business.

## EMPLOYMENT.

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The names and addresses of the Employment Committee are as follows :

|                |   |   |
|----------------|---|---|
| W. C. GARDNER, | { | 43 & 45 White St., N. Y.<br>91 Hicks St., B'klyn. |
|----------------|---|---|

Miss FANNY HULL, 399 Dean Street, B'klyn.

Miss M. HAVILAND, 529 Pacific St., B'klyn.

|                  |   |   |
|------------------|---|---|
| JOSIAH T. TUBBY, | { | 30 Ferry Street, N. Y.<br>444 Classon Ave., B'klyn. |
|------------------|---|---|

|              |   |   |
|--------------|---|---|
| R. F. SMITH, | { | 18 Wall Street, N. Y.<br>50 Sidney Place, B'klyn. |
|--------------|---|---|

Any one having vacant situations for boys of the class that come to the Union Rooms, can have them filled by applying to either member of the above Committee.

## List of Subscribers for 1872-3.

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|                        |          |                      |         |
|------------------------|----------|----------------------|---------|
| A. A. LOW.....         | \$500 00 | D. C. ROBBINS.....   | \$25 00 |
| E. H. R. LYMAN.....    | 200 00   | J. W. STEARNS.....   | 25 00   |
| MRS. MARIA CARY.....   | 200 00   | R. F. SMITH.....     | 25 00   |
| ALEX. M. WHITE.....    | 150 00   | W. R. SHELDON.....   | 25 00   |
| JAS. S. NOYES.....     | 100 00   | A. T. WHITE.....     | 25 00   |
| GEO. S. CARY.....      | 100 00   | J. F. WHITNEY .....  | 25 00   |
| NATH. H. CARY.....     | 100 00   | MRS. C. MALI.....    | 20 00   |
| J. W. FROTHINGHAM....  | 100 00   | E. B. HYDE.....      | 10 00   |
| RIPLEY ROPES.....      | 100 00   | E. CROMWELL.....     | 10 00   |
| R. W. ROPES.....       | 50 00    | H. E. DODGE.....     | 10 00   |
| JOSIAH B. BLOSSOM..... | 50 00    | ROBERT FOSTER.....   | 10 00   |
| C. B. TATHAM.....      | 50 00    | HARRY HYDE.....      | 10 00   |
| JAS. CASSIDY.....      | 50 00    | J. M. LEAVITT.....   | 10 00   |
| I. H. FROTHINGHAM....  | 50 00    | J. E. MILLER.....    | 10 00   |
| C. P. GERRISH.....     | 50 00    | ACHILLE MAGNI.....   | 10 00   |
| MRS. G. W. BAXTER....  | 50 00    | JOSIAH T. TUBBY..... | 10 00   |
| W. C. GARDNER.....     | 25 00    | D. LITTLEJOHN.....   | 10 00   |
| F. HATHAWAY.....       | 25 00    | A FRIEND.....        | 10 00   |
| D. B. HALSTEAD.....    | 25 00    | CASH.....            | 10 00   |
| J. LITTLEJOHN.....     | 25 00    | MRS. CLARK.....      | 5 00    |
| R. H. MANNING.....     | 25 00    | MISS HICKS.....      | 5 00    |
| GEO. M. OLCOTT.....    | 25 00    | A FRIEND.....        | 5 00    |
| MRS. THOS. PROSSER.... | 25 00    | MISS SWEET.....      | 5 00    |
| G. C. ROBINSON.....    | 25 00    | WM. MELDRUM.....     | 5 00    |

# BROOKLYN UNION FOR CHRISTIAN WORK.

## Treasurer's Annual Statement.

19

| RECEIPTS.                                 |            | EXPENDITURES.                            |            |
|---|------------|--|------------|
| From Balance of Account 1872.....         | \$198 86   | For Rent of Rooms.....                   | \$1,400 00 |
| " Subscriptions .....                     | 2,462 13   | " Salaries .....                         | 1,115 00   |
| " Reserve Fund.....                       | 700 00     | " Repairs and Furnishings for Rooms..... | 310 93     |
| " Interest on Investments.....            | 120 25     | " Periodicals and Newspapers.....        | 219 65     |
| " Proceeds Rev. H. W. Bellows' Lectures.. | 79 50      | " Materials for Classes.....             | 73 12      |
| " Annual Dues.....                        | 76 00      | " Gas and Fuel.....                      | 350 99     |
| " Sale of Old Furnishings .....           | 27 21      | " Advertising and Printing.....          | 77 50      |
|   |            | " Sundries.....                          | 35 17      |
|   | \$3,663 95 |  | \$3,582 36 |
|   |            | Balance in hands of Treasurer .....      | 81 59      |
|   |            | " " Reserve Fund.....                    | 900 00     |
|   |            | " " Music Fund.....                      | 50 00      |
|   |            | " " Boys' Savings Bank.....              | 230 00     |

BROOKLYN, Nov. 18th, 1873.

SYLVESTER SWAIN, *Treasurer.*





